



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE **108th** CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 149

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2003

No. 20

House of Representatives

The House met at 4 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
February 4, 2003.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN BOOZMAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, Creator of the Universe and redeemer of all in the human family, this strong and determined Nation stands before You today with heavy hearts and heads bowed in prayer.

The break-up of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* brings all of us to the edge of life as we know it, feeling a common vulnerability. We commend to You the two women and five men who achieved their dream in becoming astronauts. Their heroic stories will continue to inspire the young, encourage scientists and those who serve their country.

Engaged by the wonder of Your creation, they reached beyond human limitation to explore the secrets of the Universe. Now, drawn beyond space and time, they enter the silent mystery known to You alone.

O Lord, console their families and friends of NASA with loving compassion and peace. As we scan the landscape of this disaster, help Your people to solve the riddle of human life, to heal the fractures of an international space program, and to piece together the fragments of world relationships on

this blue planet, swirling through space, called Earth.

For You are Lord of the heavens and of us now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. PUTNAM) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. PUTNAM led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 31, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I have the honor to transmit a sealed envelope received from the White House on January 31, 2003 at 2:58 p.m. and said to contain a message from the President whereby he submits a report to the Congress on the progress made in achieving militarily significant benchmarks toward a sustainable peace in Kosovo.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHLL,
Clerk of the House.

REPORT ON PROGRESS IN ACHIEVING MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT BENCHMARKS FOR CONDITIONS ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE PEACE IN KOSOVO—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-33)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 1212 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001, Public Law 106-398, I hereby submit a report, prepared by my Administration, on the progress made in achieving the militarily significant benchmarks for conditions that would achieve a sustainable peace in Kosovo and ultimately allow for the withdrawal of the United States military presence in Kosovo.

The term "militarily significant" relates to tasks and objectives significant from a military standpoint that once accomplished, would allow for withdrawal of military forces from Kosovo. In the establishment of the Kosovo benchmarks, four critical tasks for NATO forces were identified: military stability; public security; border/boundary issues; and war crimes/sup-port to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. Objectives for these tasks were drawn from United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244, the NATO Operations

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

H269